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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/597,574	<b>Applicant(s)</b> HILDEBRAND ET AL.
	<b>Examiner</b> CAI CHEN	<b>Art Unit</b> 2425

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1)  Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 July 2011.
- 2a)  This action is FINAL.      2b)  This action is non-final.
- 3)  An election was made by the applicant in response to a restriction requirement set forth during the interview on \_\_\_\_\_; the restriction requirement and election have been incorporated into this action.
- 4)  Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 5)  Claim(s) 3-5,7-12 and 29-38 is/are pending in the application.
- 5a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 6)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 7)  Claim(s) 3-5,7-12 and 29-38 is/are rejected.
- 8)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 9)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 10)  The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 11)  The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a)  accepted or b)  objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 12)  The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13)  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a)  All    b)  Some \* c)  None of:
  1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- 1)  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2)  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3)  Information Disclosure Statement (PTO/1468)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 08/02/2011, 09/18/2011, 08/30/2011, 12/02/2011, 01/03/2012, 01/06/2012, and 01/15/2011

4)  Interview Summary (PTO-413)

Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_

5)  Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**DETAILED ACTION*****Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 3-5, 7-12, and 29-38 have been considered but are moot because the arguments do not apply to any of the references being used in the current rejection.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vince (US 2002/0075954) in view of Murai (US 2005/0009519 A1) and further in view of Mao (6,886,178 B1).

Regarding claim 3, Vince discloses a method comprising:

demultiplexing a first digital transport stream to recover first and second digital payloads that were each carried in the first digital transport stream prior to demultiplexing (Fig. 1, el. 20, the demodulator is used to recover the first payload [el. 32] and second payload [el. 34]);

transporting the second digital payload to a transcoder whose output is connected to a multiplexer upon determining that the protocol in which the second digital payload is formatted is not in a set of one or more supported

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protocols (Fig. 1, para. 8-9, para. 20, the second signal payload [el. 34] is determined to be not in a SD signal MPEG 2 format, the second payload is inserted to a transcoder [el. 50+el. 60, i.e., re-scaler and encoder] whose output [el. 34'] is connected to a multiplexer [el. 70]);

bypassing the transcoder and transporting the first digital payload to the multiplexer (Fig. 1, the first digital payload [el. 32] is bypassing the path of second digital payload [el. 34], and the first digital payload [el. 32] is inputted to the multiplexer [el. 70])

and multiplexing, at the multiplexer, the first digital payload and the transcoded second digital payload to create a second digital transport stream (Fig. 1, para. 8, para. 18, the multiplexer [el. 70] to multiplex the first digital payload [el. 32] with the transcoded second digital payload [el. 34'] to create a second digital stream [el. 75]).

Vince does not explicitly disclose bypassing the transcoder and transporting the first digital payload to the multiplexer upon determining that a protocol associated with the first digital payload is in the set of one or more supported protocols;

Murai discloses the concept of bypassing the transcoder and transporting the first digital payload to the multiplexer upon determining that a protocol associated with the first digital payload is in the set of one or more supported protocols (Fig. 3, para. 30-32, the data signal packet has to be determined in order to route control data message to route to protocol unit [el. 33] or bypassing other transcoder unit to the multiplexer)

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It would be obvious to one of ordinary in the art at the time of invention to modify Vince to include Murai in order to properly transports the program signal to the correct path.

Vince in view of Murai does not explicitly disclose transcoding, at the transcoder, the second digital payload to be formatted in the protocol in which the first digital protocol is not formatted;

Mao teaches transcoding, at the transcoder, the second digital payload to be formatted in the protocol in which the first digital protocol is not formatted; and "multiplexing, at the multiplexer, the first digital payload and the transcoded second digital payload to create a second digital transport stream" (Fig. 1, col. 6, lines 18-26, the program signal from el. 11 is transcoded at the transcoder (el. 20), and the signal from el. 12 and the transcoded signal from el. 20 is multiplexed)

It would be obvious to one of ordinary in the art at the time of invention to modify Vince in view of Murai to include Mao in order to enhance the program signal to increase the viewer's experience.

3. Claims 4-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vince (US 2002/0075954) in view of Murai in view of Mao and further in view of Dureau (US 2003/0135860 A1).

Regarding claim 4, Vince in view of Murai in view of Mao discloses all limitation of claim 3,

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Vince in view of Murai in view of Mao does not explicitly discloses wherein the protocol associated with the first digital payload is older than the protocol associated with the second digital payload and the second payload is transcoded to the older protocols.

Dureau teaches wherein the protocol associated with the first digital payload is older than the protocol associated with the second digital payload and the second payload is transcoded to the older protocols (para. 35, para. 39, the set top box has a demultiplexer to recover the first digital payload (MPEG 2 payload) and the second digital payload (MPEG 4), wherein the MPEG 2 protocol is older than MPEG 4 protocol and MPEG 4 is to be transcoded into MPEG 2 format by a transcoder).

It would be obvious to one of ordinary in the art at the time of invention to modify Vince in view of Murai in view of Mao to include Dureau feature in order to allow a system to be compatible of displaying the MPEG 2 formatted video program content.

Regarding claim 5, Vince in view of Murai in view of Mao discloses all limitation of claim 3,

Vince in view of Murai in view of Mao does not explicitly discloses wherein the protocol associated with the first digital payload is less compressive than the protocol associated with the second digital payload, and the second digital payload is trancoded to the less compressive protocols.

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Dureau wherein the protocol associated with the first digital payload is less compressive than the protocol associated with the second digital payload, and the second digital payload is transcoded to the less compressive protocols (para. 35, para. 39, the set top box has a demultiplexer to recover the first digital payload (MPEG 2 payload) and the second digital payload (MPEG 4), wherein the MPEG 2 protocol is less compressive than MPEG 4 protocol and MPEG 4 is to be transcoded into MPEG 2 format by a transcoder).

It would be obvious to one of ordinary in the art at the time of invention to modify Vince in view of Murai in view of Mao to include Dureau feature in order to allow a system to be compatible of displaying the MPEG 2 formatted video program content.

4. Claims 7-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vince (US 2002/0075954) in view of Murai in view of Mao and further in view of Candolore (US 2005/0175178 A1).

Regarding claim 7, Vince in view of Murai in view of Mao discloses all limitation of claim 3.

Vince in view of Murai in view of Mao not explicitly disclose decrypting conditional access (CA) encryption of the first transport stream prior to demultiplexing.

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Candelore teaches disclose decrypting conditional access (CA) encryption of the first transport stream prior to demultiplexing (Fig. 2, 5, and 8, el. 272-el. 288, para. 40-41, para. 60-64, para. 84-85, para. 94).

It would be obvious to one of ordinary in the art at the time of invention to modify Vince in view of Murai in view of Mao set top box to include decrypting conditional access (CA) encryption of the first transport stream prior to demultiplexing, as taught by Candelore, in order to decrypt the TV signal so only the person is authorized can access the TV content (para. 40-41).

Regarding claim 8, Vince in view of Murai in view of Mao further in view of Candelore discloses decrypting the CA encryption of the first digital transport stream in a settop box (STB) (Candelore, Fig. 2, 5, and 8, el. 272-el. 288, para. 40-41, para. 60-64, para. 84-85, para. 94).

Regarding claim 9, Vince in view of Murai in view of Mao discloses all limitation of claim 1, and further discloses step of demultiplexing the first transport stream, transcoding the second digital payload, and multiplexing the first and transcoded payloads occurs in the system (Vince, Fig. 1, para. 8-9, para. 20).

Vince in view of Murai in view of Mao does not explicitly discloses a card inserted into a card slot of first interface device,

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Candelore teaches discloses a card inserted into a card slot of first interface device (Fig. 2, el. 10, a cable card containing the function of transcoder is inserted in the STB receiver),

It would be obvious to one of ordinary in the art at the time of invention to modify Vince in view of Murai in view of Mao a card inserted into a card slot of first interface device, in order to easily replace the cable card with another one if it goes bad.

5. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vince in view of Murai in view of Mao and further in view of Candelore and further in view of Park (5,757,909).

Regarding claim 10, Vince in view of Murai in view of Mao and further in view of Candelore discloses all limitation of claim 9, and further discloses decode the data stream prior to the demultiplexing, transcoding, and multiplexing (Vince, para. 8-9, para. 20, Fig. 1).

Dureau in view of Murai in view of Mao and further in view of Candelore does not explicitly disclose [decoding] copy protection of the first transport stream [in the card].

Park teaches [decoding] copy protection of the first transport stream [in the card] (Fig. 6-9, col. 13, lines 1-67, col. 14, lines 21-67 ).

It would be obvious to one of ordinary in the art at the time of invention to modify Vince in view of Murai in view of Mao and further in view of Candelore to

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include [decoding] copy protection of the first transport stream [in the card], as taught by Park, in order to perform the illegal viewing and copy protection (col.14, lines 65-67).

6. Claims 11-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vince in view of Murai in view of Mao and further in view of Candelore and further in view of Park (5,757,909) and further in view of Orr (US 6,567,127 B1).

Regarding claim 11, Vince in view of Murai in view of Mao and further in view of Candelore and further in view of park discloses all limitations of claim 10.

Vince in view of Murai in view of Mao and further in view of Candelore and further in view of park does not explicitly disclose encoding copy protection to the second transport stream.

Orr teaches encoding copy protection to the second transport stream (Fig. 1, col. 3, lines 30-63).

It would be obvious to one of ordinary in the art at the time of invention to modify Vince in view of Murai in view of Mao and further in view of Candelore and further in view of Park to include encoding copy protection to the second transport stream, as taught by Orr, in order to enhance the video data stream (col. 3, lines 50-52).

Regarding claim 12, Vince in view of Murai in view of Mao and further in view of Candelore and further in view of park and further in view of Orr discloses transmitting the copy protection encoded second transport stream from the card to the first interface device (Candelore, Fig. 2, the copy protection encoded signal is transmitted from the CP Encrypter of the cable card to the Host device [el. 14]).

7. Claims 29 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dureau in view of Mao and further in view of Murai.

Regarding claim 29, Dureau discloses receiving, at a device, a first digital transport stream that contains a plurality of first digital payloads that are each formatted according to a first protocol and plurality of second digital payloads that are each formatted according to a second protocol, wherein the plurality of first digital payloads formatted according to the first protocol and the plurality of second digital payloads formatted according to the second protocol are multiplexed together in the first digital transport stream (para. 34-35, para. 39, the first transport stream are formatted in the protocol of MPEG 2 (first payload), and MPEG 4 (second payload) and multiplexed together and being received at the control unit of the NG receiver [el. 340]);

demultiplexing, at the device, the first digital transport stream to recover the first digital payloads and the second digital payloads (para. 35 and para. 39,

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the control unit to demultiplexed the first digital stream to recover the first payload in MPEG 2 format and the second payload in MPEG 4 format);

transcoding each of the second digital payloads to be formatted according to a protocol of the first payload (para. 35, the receiver [el. 340] has a transcoder to transmit one format to other format, i.e., transcode MPEG 4 to MPEG 2),

Dureau does not explicitly discloses transcoding each of the second digital payloads to be formatted according to a protocol that depends upon the first protocol; and

multiplexing the first digital payloads with the transcoded second digital payloads to create a second digital transport stream.

Mao teaches transcoding each of the second digital payloads to be formatted in a protocol of the first payload that is selected depending up the first protocol (Fig. 1, col. 6, lines 18-26, the program signal from el. 11 is transcoded at the transcoder (el. 20), and the signal from el. 12 and the transcoded signal from el. 20 is multiplexed, the transcoding of the signal from el. 11 is selected based on the signal of el. 12 (MPEG format) as such the two signal can be multiplexed in the MPEG multiplexer);

; and

and multiplexing, at the multiplexer, the first digital payload and the transcoded second digital payload to create a second digital transport stream (Fig. 1, el. 14, the MPEG remultiplexer to multiplex the signal from el. 12, and el. 20).

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It would be obvious to one of ordinary in the art at the time of invention to modify Dureau to include Mao in order for a system to correctly process the compatible MPEG 2 video program content and display to the user without any error.

Dureau in view of Mao does not explicitly disclose determining that the first protocol is dissimilar from the second protocol;

Murai teaches determining that the first protocol is dissimilar from the second protocol (Fig. 3, para. 30-32, the demultiplexer [el. 32] to determine the control message difference from MPEG data or AMR data);

It would be obvious to one of ordinary in the art at the time of invention to modify Dureau in view of Mao to include Murai in order to correctly routing each signal to each destination.

Regarding claim 32, the instant claim is analyzed with respect to claim 29.

8. Claims 30, 33-34, and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dureau in view of Mao in view of Murai and further in view of Candelore (US 2005/0175178 A1) and further in view of Kost (US 2002/01546941 A1).

Regarding claim 30, Dureau in view of Mao in view of Murai discloses all limitation of claim 29.

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Dureau in view Mao in view of Murai does not explicitly disclose prior to demultiplexing, decoding the first transport stream to remove copy protection,

After multiplexing, decoding the second transport stream to be copy protected,

Candelore teaches prior to demultiplexing, decoding the first transport stream to remove copy protection (Fig. 1, el. 29, the transport stream is decrypted at el. 29 prior to demultiplexing),

It would be obvious to one of ordinary in the art at the time of invention to modify Dureau in view of Mao in view of Murai set top box to include prior to demultiplexing, decoding the first transport stream to remove copy protection, as taught as taught by Candelore, in order to ensure that the copy protected content is only accessed by the authorized persons (para. 40-41).

Dureau in view of in view of Mao and further in view of Candelore does not explicitly disclose after multiplexing, decoding the second transport stream to be copy protected,

Kost teaches after multiplexing, decoding the second transport stream to be copy protected (para. 46),

It would be obvious to one of ordinary in the art at the time of invention to modify Dureau in view of Mao in view of Murai and further in view of Candelore set top box to include after multiplexing, decoding the second transport stream to be copy protected in order to ensure copy protected content is only accessed by authorized users.

Regarding claim 33, the instant claim is analyzed with respect to claim 30.

Regarding claim 34, Dureau in view of Mao in view of Murai and further in view of Candelore and further in view of Kost discloses a second copy protection encoder configured to encode the first transport stream to be copy protected and transmit it to the first copy protection decoder (Candelore, Fig. 2, el. 28, CP Encrypter is to encode),

a second copy protection decoder configured to decode the second transport stream received from the second first copy protection encoder, so as to no longer be copy protected (Candelore, Fig. 2, el. 29, CP decryption to decode); and

a second demultiplexor configured to demultiplex the second transport stream received from the second copy protection decoder, to separate the first payloads from the second payloads (Candelore, Fig. 2, el. 30, the demultiplexer to separate two payload one going to el. 24, and other one goes to el. 31).

Regarding claim 36, Dureau in view of Mao in view of Murai and further in view of Candelore and further in view of Kost discloses all limitation of claim 33, and further discloses wherein the demultiplexor (Dureau, para. 39, Vince, Fig. 1), the transcoder (Dureau, para. 35, Vince, Fig. 1, transcoder), and the multiplexor are on a first hardware module (Dureau, para. 39),

Dureau in view of Mao in view of Murai and further in view of Candelore and further in view of Kost does not explicitly disclose first hardware module that

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is configured to be inserted into a receiver device that is configured to decode digital payloads formatted according to the second protocol.

and the first copy protection encoder, the first copy protection decoder are on a first hardware module,

Candelore one embodiment teaches first hardware module that is configured to be inserted into a receiver device that is configured to decode payloads formatted according to the second protocol (Fig. 2, el. 10, the cable card is to inserted to the receiver).

the first copy protection encoder (Candelore, Fig. 2, el. 28), the first copy protection decoder are on a first hardware module (Candelore, Fig. 2, el. 29),

It would be obvious to one of ordinary in the art at the time of invention to modify Dureau in view of Mao in view of Murai and further in view of Candelore and further in view of Kost include first hardware module that is configured to be inserted into a receiver device that is configured to decode digital payloads formatted according to the second protocol in order to easily to replace this module if it goes bad.

9. Claim 31 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dureau in view of Mao in view of Murai and further in view of Candelore and Kost and further in view of Orr (US 6,567,127 B1)

Regarding claim 31, Dureau in view of Mao in view of Murai and further in view of Candelore and Kost discloses all limitation of claim 30,

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Dureau in view of Mao in view of Murai and further in view of Candelore and Kost does not explicitly disclose prior to demultiplexing and prior to decoding, encoding the first transport stream to be copy protected;

after multiplexing and after encoding the second transport stream, decoding the second transport stream no longer be copy protected; and

after decoding the second transport stream, demultiplexing the second transport stream to recover the first and transcoded second payloads.

Candelore one embodiment teaches prior to demultiplexing(el. 30) and prior to decoding (el. 34), encoding the first transport stream to be copy protected (Fig. 1, el. 28);

after decoding the second transport stream (el. 29), demultiplexing (el. 30) the second transport stream to recover the first and transcoded second payloads (first payload goes to el. 34, and second payload goes to el. 31).

It would be obvious to one of ordinary in the art at the time of invention to modify Dureau in view of Vince and further in view of Candelore and further in view of Kost to include prior to demultiplexing and prior to decoding, encoding the first transport stream to be copy protected and after decoding the second transport stream, demultiplexing the second transport stream to recover the first and transcoded second payloads; as taught by Candelore, in order to copy protected the program file so only authorized user can access.

Dureau in view of Mao in view of Murai and further in view of Candelore and further in view of Kost does not explicitly disclose after multiplexing and after

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encoding the second transport stream, decoding the second transport stream no longer be copy protected; and

Orr teaches after multiplexing (Fig. 1, el. 50) and after encoding the second transport stream (el. 40, copy protection encoding), decoding the second transport stream no longer be copy protected (el. 116, copy protection decoder);

It would be obvious to one of ordinary in the art at the time of invention to modify Dureau in view of Mao in view of Murai and further in view of Candelore and further in view of Kost to include after multiplexing and after encoding the second transport stream, decoding the second transport stream no longer be copy protected; as taught by Orr, in order to remove the copy protected program content from authorized user so he or she can watch the content.

10. Claims 35, and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dureau in view of Mao in view of Murai in view of Candelore.

Regarding claim 35, Dureau in view of Mao in view of Murai discloses all limitation of claim 32, and further discloses wherein the demultiplexor (Dureau, para. 39, Vince, Fig. 1), the transcoder (Dureau, para. 35, Vince, Fig. 1, transcoder) and the multiplexor are on a first hardware module (Dureau, para. 39, Vince, Fig. 1),

Dureau in view of Vince does not explicitly disclose first hardware module that is configured to be inserted into a receiver device that is configured to decode digital payloads formatted according to the second protocol.

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Candelore teaches first hardware module that is configured to be inserted into a receiver device that is configured to decode digital payloads formatted according to the second protocol (Fig. 2, el. 10, the cable card is to be inserted to the receiver).

It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify Dureau in view of Mao in view of Murai to include first hardware module that is configured to be inserted into a receiver device that is configured to decode payloads formatted according to the second protocol in order to easily to replace this module if it goes bad.

Regarding claim 38, Dureau in view of Mao in view of Murai discloses all limitation of claim 29, and further discloses wherein the demultiplexor (Dureau, para. 39, Vince, Fig. 1), the transcoder (Dureau, para. 35, Vince, Fig. 1, transcoder) and the multiplexor are on a first hardware module (Dureau, para. 39, Vince, Fig. 1),

Dureau in view of Vince does not explicitly disclose transmitting the second digital transport stream to a device that is configured to receive transport streams containing digital payloads formatted according to the first protocol.

Candelore teaches transmitting the second digital transport stream to a device that is configured to receive transport streams containing digital payloads formatted according to the first protocol (Candelore, Fig. 2, the second transport stream is going from the cable card (el. 28) to the STB (el. 29), and the cable card has the transcoder (el. 70) to format to the MPEG 2 protocol).

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It would be obvious to one of ordinary in the art at the time of invention to modify Dureau in view of Mao in view of Murai to include Candelore feature in order to easily to replace this module if it goes bad.

11. Claim 37 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dureau in view of Mao in view of Murai and further in view of Candelore (US 2005/0175178 A1) and further in view of Krost and further in view of Iwamura (US 2003/0059047 A1).

Regarding claim 37, Dureau in view of Mao in view of Murai and further in view of Candelore and further in view of Krost discloses all limitation of claim 36, and further discloses wherein the demultiplexor (Dureau, para. 39), the transcoder (Candelore, Fig. 2, el. 70), and the multiplexor are on a first hardware module (Dureau, para. 39), the first copy protection encoder (Candelore, Fig. 2, el. 28), the first copy protection decoder are on a first hardware module (Candelore, Fig. 2, el. 29),

Dureau in view of Mao in view of Murai and further in view of Candelore and further in view of Krost does not explicitly disclose a first hardware module that is configured to communicate with a second hardware module that contains the second copy protection encoder, the second copy protection decoder, and the second demultiplexor.

Iwamura teaches a first hardware module that is configured to communicate with a second hardware module that contains the second copy

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protection encoder, the second copy protection decoder, and the second demultiplexor (Fig. 2, para. 17, para. 58-60, the set top box contains second encryptor, decryptor, and demultiplexer are communicated to Pod card (first module)).

It would be obvious to one of ordinary in the art at the time of invention to modify Dureau in view of Mao in view of Murai and further in view of Candelore and further in view of Krost to include teaches a first hardware module that is configured to communicate with a second hardware module that contains the second copy protection encoder, the second copy protection decoder, and the second demultiplexor, as taught by Iwamura, in order to properly decoded the copy protected content to the authorized users.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CAI CHEN whose telephone number is (571)270-5679. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Pendleton can be reached on 571-272-7527. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/CAI CHEN/  
Examiner, Art Unit 2425